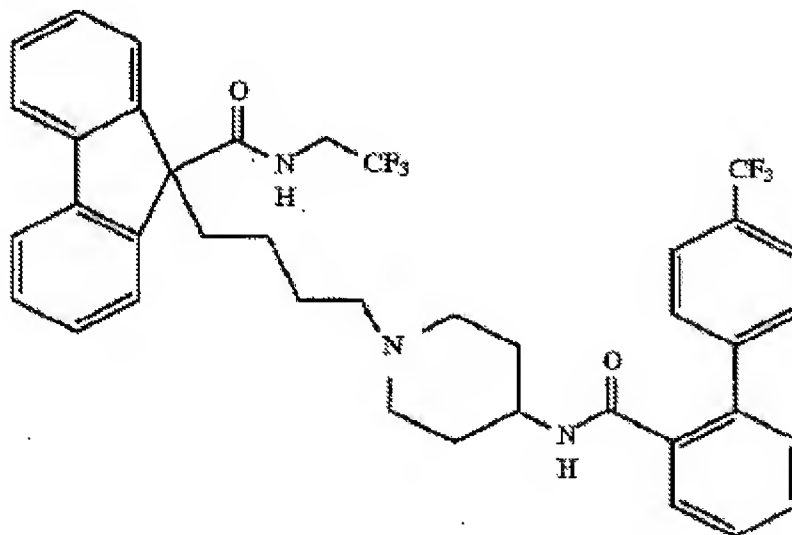


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a subject suffering hyperlipidemia or hypercholesterolemia, the method comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an MTP inhibitor, wherein said administration comprises at least three step-wise, increasing dose levels of the MTP inhibitors wherein a first dose level is from about 2 to about 13 mg/day, a second dose level is from about 5 to about 30mg/day, and a third dose level is from about 10 to about 50 mg/day; and wherein the MTP inhibitor is represented by:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or the piperidine N-oxide thereof, and wherein each dose level is administered to the subject for about 1 to 4 weeks.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the disorder is severe hypercholesterolemia.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more of Total Cholesterol, LDL, fasting triglycerides (TG), VLDL, lipoprotein (a) (Lp(a)), and lipoprotein B are reduced by at least 15%, compared to control levels.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more of Total Cholesterol, LDL, fasting triglycerides (TG), VLDL, lipoprotein (a) (Lp(a)), and-lipoprotein B are reduced by at least 25%, compared to control levels.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the MTP inhibitor is administered orally.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said increasing dose levels further comprise a fourth dose level.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said increasing dose levels further comprise a fourth and a fifth dose level.
- 10.-25. (Canceled).
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the increasing dose levels comprise a fourth dose level from about 20 to about 60 mg/day and a fifth dose level from about 30 to about 75mg/day.
- 27.-28. (Canceled)